GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2891
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2001
UPGRADED MIG FROM RUSSIA
GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Russia had decided to supply two upgraded MIG-21 aircraft to India by mid-January, 2001 but these fighter aircraft are still being modernised in Russia;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay;

(c) whether the Indian Air Force remaining 123 MIG aircraft are proposed to be modernised at the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited in Nasik, Maharashtra, with Russian technical assistance; and

(d) if so, the time by which all the upgraded MIG are likely to be supplied to India by Russia?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): The two upgraded MIG-21 Bis aircraft have, already, been received in India, in December, 2000.

(c) & (d): The remaining 123 Mig-21 Bis aircraft are to be upgraded at HAL, Nasik with some technical assistance from the Russian specialists. The task of upgrading the aircraft is expected to be completed in the Financial year, 2004-2005.